	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
22.	Tamil Nadu	34	3667.8	3490.5	3607.7	14.7	13.9	21.5
23.	Tripura	4	194.6	204.6	205.9	1.0	0.2	0.5
24.	Uttar Pradesh	89	2356.6	2514.5	2491.6	8.6	9.9	10.5
25.	West Bengal	74	5093.0	5383.2	5468.6	7.2	8.6	9.6
	Union Territories							
1.	A&N Islands	1	19.8	20.2	21.6	0.6	0.6	0.2
2.	Chandigarh	2	157.2	153.2	139.7	1.1	0.6	0.7
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	4.0	4.5	5.0	0.1		
4.	Delhi	20	970.1	1033.8	1081.2	13.5	16.9	10.9
5.	Daman & Diu	2	5.2	4.6	5.0	0.1		
6.	Lakshadweep	1	8.5	9.4	9.7	0.2	0.1	0.1
7.	Pondicherry	1	142.6	151.4	133.0	0.3	0.4	0.1
	Total	914	36691.5	36742.3	37429.6	204.9	214.9	233

Note: 1. $ No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

Methodology for Estimation of Poverty

3119. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appearing in the 'Times of India' on 5th March, 1997 under the heading "Naidu sore over Centre stand on poverty ration";

(b) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written a letter to the Prime Minister expressing his reservations over the decision of the Centre to switch over to the Lakdawala Committee methodology for estimation of poverty to determine Central Financial aid to States;

(c) whether Government propose to have a rethinking on the whole issue as the States share under the new public distribution system would be more distortionary and erroneous; and

(d) the Government's reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) It is a fact that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written a letter to the Prime Minister stating that the Chief Minister is not "inclined to accept the use of poverty ratio based on Lakdawala Committee methodology" as a variable in determining the allocation of central resources flow, including the quantum of allocation for centrally sponsored schemes. The Chief Minister has expressed his reservations on Lakdawala Committee methodology to estimate the poverty for Andhra Pradesh and has suggested that the poverty ratio for Andhra Pradesh should be re-estimated under Lakdawala method by eliminating the price depressing effect of the State Government sponsored food subsidy programme. The implication of the suggestion on estimates of poverty for Andhra Pradesh is being studied.

(c) and (d) No rethinking about the use of Lakdawala methodology to estimate poverty is contemplated by the Planning Commission.

Merger of Poverty Alleviation programme and employment oriented schemes

3120. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to merge poverty alleviation programmes and the employment

oriented schemes, and to boost the financial allocations therefor;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the revised programme would come into force;

(c) whether Government have evaluated the reasons for the failure of anti-poverty programmes and employment-oriented schemes to take off the ground effectively; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to tide over the shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) A Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission to Review and Rationalise Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Poverty Alleviation and Employment Generation. The programmes/schemes of the Ministry of Rural Areas & employment, Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment, Ministry of Welfare, Department of Small Scale Industries, Agro & Rural Industries and Department of Women & Child Development were examined by the Committee. After a detailed review of these schemes the Committee has recommended streamlining the existing schemes and rationalisation of norms and procedures for their implementation. However, there is no proposal in the Report to bring all the poverty alleviation schemes under a single Central nodal agency. The Committee has since submitted its Report to the Government.

(c) and (d) The Government regularly reviews the implementation of rural poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes, namely the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) from time to time in the Central Level Coordination Committee (CLCC), State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) and at the district level by the Governing Body of the District Rural Development Agency (DRDAS). These programmes are also reviewed through regular progress reports from the States on key indicators and through an intensive regimen of field inspections by officers of the Centre, State and implementing agencies. Periodic review meetings with State Secretaries incharge of Rural Development and Conferences of Project Directors of DRDAs are also held to review the progress in the implementation of these schemes. Monitoring and vigilance Committees have been set up at the State, district and block levels in which elected representatives of the people have been associated to monitor the implementation of these schemes.

Furthermore, to assess the overall impact of various poverty alleviation programmes, in relation to their specific objectives, the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment undertakes periodic Concurrent Evaluations of their major schemes through independent recognised institutions/organisations. The main findings of the latest Concurrent Evaluation Report on IRDP (September, 1992 to February 1993) and JRY (1993-94) is enclosed at Annexure [*See Appendix 180 Annexure No. 64*]

On the basis of these reviews and evaluation studies the Government periodically revamps these poverty alleviation programmes to improve their overall efficacy. The Government proposes to continue the programmes for self employment and supplementary wage employment, which would be redesigned in order to make them more effective as instruments of poverty alleviation. They would also be integrated with the various sectoral programmes as well as area development programmes within the umbrella of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIS). In addition, priority will be given to identified seven basic minimum services with additional Central Assistance earmarked for these services with the ultimate objective of their universal coverage in a time bound manner.

Amount Allocated to the Border Districts in the Country

3121. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to the border